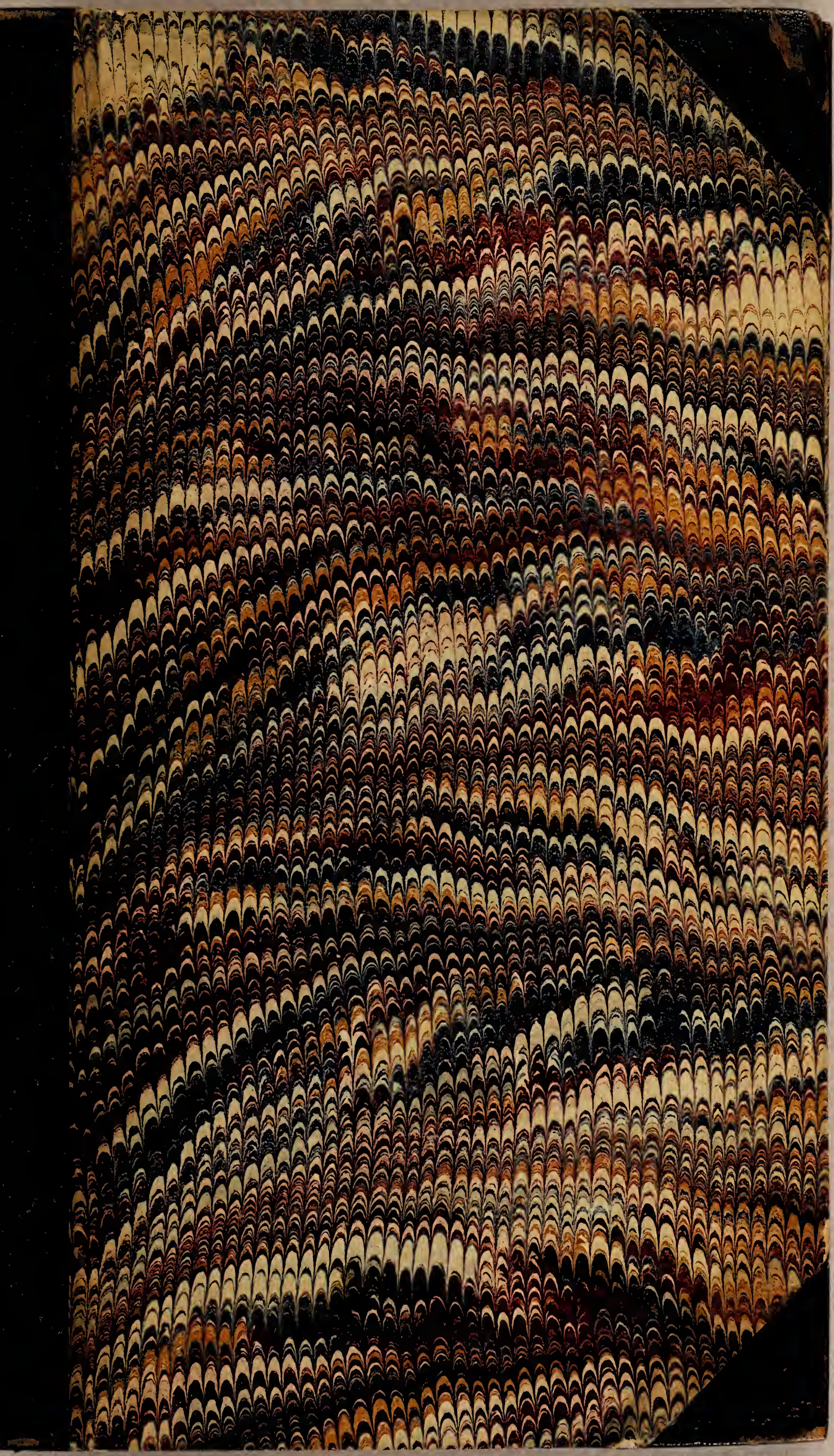

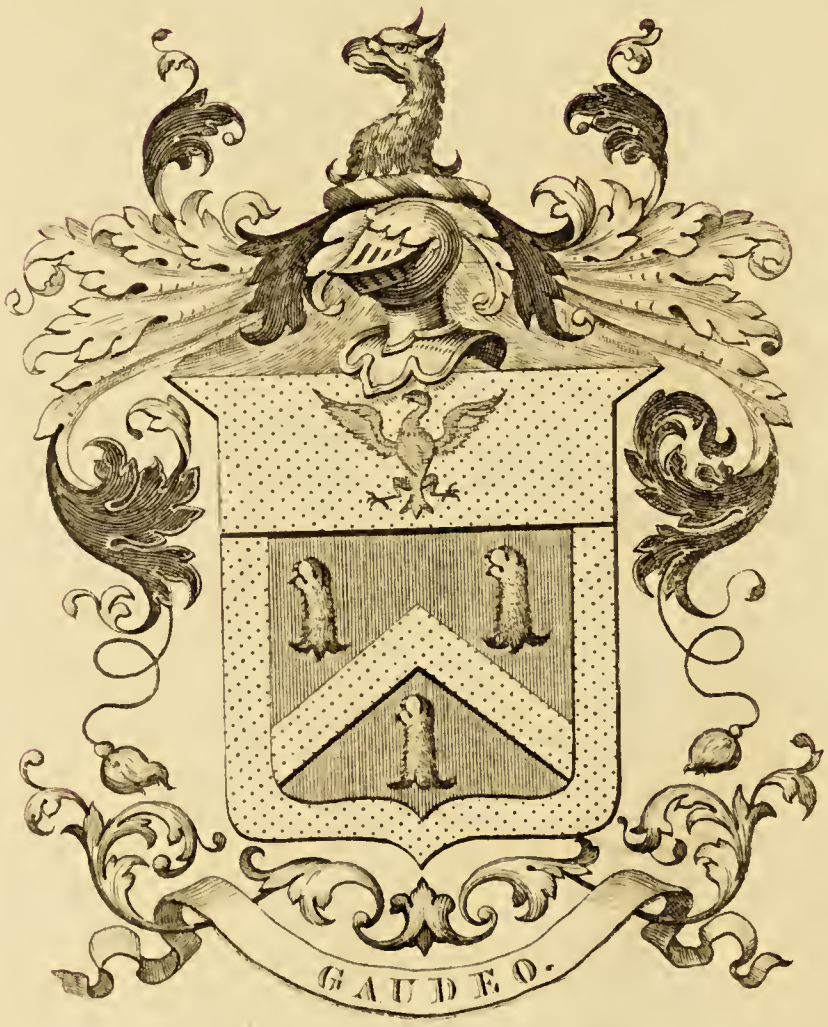

John Carter Brown.

Pembroke, 1830.

1759 CANDID pages 50

REFLECTIONS

ON THE

EXPEDITION

TO

MARTINICO.

WITH

An Account of the Taking of GUADALUPE by General *Barrington*.

The Whole interſperſed with many curious ANECDOTES: Among which, ſome Obſervations on the COMET that lately appeared.

By J. J. a LIEUTENANT in the NAVY.

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JOHN CARTER BROWN.

CANDID REFLECTIONS ON THE EXPEDITION TO MARTINICO.

TO diſtreſs the Houſe of *Bourbon*, in *North America*, and to deſtroy the Trade of their *Weſt India* Colonies, has ever been conſidered as the moſt ſenſible Wound that *Great Britain* could give to her natural and inveterate Enemies; but in doing this, the Time, the Place and Circum

ſtances, ought all to be conſidered before any Attempt of that Kind be entered upon.

And as it would ſeem that all theſe and other Things worthy Conſideration, have been overlooked, or at leaſt have not been properly attended to, it will be no diſagreeable Amuſement to peruſe the following Account of ſo important a Subject.

To conquer *Martinico*, Commodore *Hughes* ſailed from *Plymouth* on the 14th of *November*, with a Fleet of eight Ships of the Line, five Frigates, four Bomb-Ketches, and fifty Tranſports, having on Board ſome Regiments under the Direction of Major General *Thomas Hopſon*, who had with him two other Officers, General *John Barrington*, and General *George Haldane*, the Governor of *Jamaica*, to aſſiſt in the Command.

After a tedious and troubleſome Paſſage, occaſioned by bad Weather, and contrary Winds, the Fleet arrived in *Carliſle* Bay, in the Iſland of *Barbadoes*, where Commodore *Moore* was lying at Anchor in the *Cam-*

bridge

bridge of 80 Guns, Captain *Thomas Burnett*, and with him the *Buckingham*, *Briſtol*, and *Woolwich*.

Here the Troops were landed in the flat-bottom'd Boats, in Order to exerciſe the Men in the Method of Diſembarking, and Reimbarking, and after taking in Water, and about 300 Negroes for drawing the Artillery, the Fleets put to Sea with the Tranſports, on the 13th of *January*, being in all ſeventy-five Sail; a Force however terrible at firſt View, yet unequal to the Taſk of reducing *Martinico*.

The Iſland of *Martinico* lying between 14 and 16 Degrees of North Latitude, and in the 61ſt of Weſt Longitude, * is in as good a Poſture of Defence, as any one Diſtrict in the *French* Monarchy: The Place itſelf is ſtrong by Nature, and its Strength is augmented by the Skill and Addreſs of ſome experienced Engineers; for as it is the moſt valuable Settlement among the *Caribbee* Iſlands, ſo the *French* Miniſtry have proportioned the Force ſent to ſupport it.

* It is 60 Miles long, and 22 broad, at a Medium.

The Shore on both Sides of the Iſland, is indented with numberleſs Bays, which run far up into the Country, and the hidden Sands which only diſcover themſelves at low Water, form in many Places a hidden and almoſt inſurmountable Barrier.

But Nature has not been more liberal in defending *Martinico* from the Sea, than in ſecuring her by Fences within her own Boſom; Mountains hard of Acceſs are to be ſeen every where, a Ridge of theſe runs N. W. and S. E. from one End of the Iſland to the other, and theſe are far from being neglected, as they are improved to the beſt Advantage; each of them, as well as the Valleys which lie at their Feet, is become a Nurſery of ſome uſeful Commodity: As Cotton, Indigo, Ginger, Cacao, Aloes, Pimento, Cocos, Plantains, and other tropical Fruits, wherewith *Martinico* abounds more than any one Iſland in the *Weſt Indies*: Some of theſe Valleys are Nurſeries of Sugar Canes, and on them are erected ſeveral Mills, where that advantageous Commodity is manufactured. Here the ſtarved *Peaſants* of *Old France* find a Sanctuary from that Load of Servitude under

der which they groaned in their native Country. Here the Governours, by the expreſs Orders of the grand Monarch, treat the Planters and Settlers, with a gentle Tenderneſs, unknown to the Intendants over the Provinces of *Old France:* The Governours ſent to theſe remote, but intereſting Juriſdictions, are Men of diſtinguiſhed Prudence and Sagacity, Men of known Humanity, and who are under conditional Obligations to exerciſe a mild and eaſy Government. Here the diſbanded Soldiers have a Place for a Reſort, and the moſt Chriſtian King, by extending his Bounty towards them, is ſure to find upon every Emergency a great Number of faithful Subjects.

The Coaſt of *Martinico* abounds with Towns and Villages, which are defended by ſtrong and numerous Garriſons; and theſe are compoſed of veteran Regiments, and under the Direction of the ableſt Engineers. The Troops upon the Iſland amount to 15,000 Men, beſides 18,000 Settlers, commonly called Militia; who are all diſciplined, many of them have ſerved in *Italy* and *Flanders*, and that they may not

not forget the Uſe of Arms, they are diſciplined every Fortnight, in Companies, muſtered every ſix Weeks, in Battalions, and reviewed in a Body twice a Year; beſides there are about 60,000 Blacks on the Iſland, many of whom are dexterous in Shooting, and all know the Uſe of ſmall Arms, tho' not of Artillery. They have frequent Marriages with the Belles Dames of *France*, by whom is kindled in them ſuch a Spirit of Vivacity, that they are alert to repair to whatever Appointment the Governor is pleaſed to aſſign them: And I do aſſure you, that ſome of theſe by proper Treatment, are ſubmiſſive in their Temper, obliging in their Behaviour, and remarkably Faithful to a Maſter, who deals generouſly by them: The Ground furniſhes as much Victual, as to ſerve the Inhabitants, who can have Fiſh and Fowl, and all other Kind of Game at Pleaſure; and I believe none will doubt, of their being plentifully furniſhed with whatever can be extracted from the Sugar Manufactories.

Since this is the Caſe, how can any Prime Miniſter be anſwerable for ſending out an Handful of Men to be ſacrificed? The

whole

whole Land Forces ſent out on the Expedition, did not exceed 5500 Men, * a Number very unequal to the Taſk of taking *Fort Royal*, which is a regular Square, fortified after a new Method, by *M. de Raumeur*, and after a Deſign communicated to an *Engliſh* Gentleman by Lieutenant *Archibald Bontein*, late Chief Engineer in *Jamaica*; all the Baſtions are Squares, the Demilunes before the Curtains are Demi-ſquares: The Lunettes, and Tenailles are Squares, as are all the different Portions of the Fort; which at this Time is defended by a Train of 300 Pieces of Cannon, ſome of them eight and forty Pounders, and a Garriſon of five Regiments, conſiſting of 3750 Men, moſt of whom are *Iriſh* and *Swiſs*, who would ſooner die than ſurrender, nay many *Engliſh* Sailors, who for want of Bread in their own Country, repaired to the Ship Yards of *Breſt*, *Rochefort*, and *Toulon*, after the Peace of *Aix la Chapelle*, have, ſince the Commencement of this War, been tranſported thither, as the moſt likely People to defend it to the laſt Extremity: Here are

* Theſe were the Regiments of the Old Buffs, *Dureure*'s, *Elliott*'s, *Watſon*'s, *Barrington*'s, and *Armiger*'s; and 800 Marines.

many who were Lieutenants at the Battle of Cape *Paſſaro*, * *Anno.* 1718, and were in the ſame Station in 1748; I myſelf was a Lieutenant in the *Grafton*, in the Year 1717, when the Fleets of four Nations lay in the Road of *Copenhagen*, to cover the Deſcent upon *Schonen*, and continued in that Station till the ſhameful Repulſe of the *Britiſh* Forces before *Carthagena*, where I fell into the Hands of a cruel Enemy, and after going thro' a Scene of the moſt ſurprizing Hardſhips, ſettled at *le Precheur*, in *Martinico*, where I could not ſtarve, and ſo applied to ſuch Buſineſs as I was trained up to, and tho' I have met with ſuch Diſcouragements in my own Country, as to be obliged to earn a Livelihood in another, yet my Affection is always towards it; ſince Men in Power, and not the Country in general, are to be blamed for ſuch unjuſtifiable Practices: And I am afraid, that the preſent Managers in the late Expedition to *Martinico*, are equally culpable, as thoſe who guided the Rudder of the State, in the Time of the late *Spaniſh* War.

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* Between Sir *George Byng*, and the *Spaniſh* Fleet, *Anno.* 1718.

For

The Miniſter, whoſe Exuberance of Fancy, and Sparklings of Imagination, can only be equalled by his Redundancy of Speech, and Volubility of Tongue, could not be ſo ignorant of the Importance, the Strength and Condition of *Martinico*, as to think of conquering it with a Force not exceeding ſix Thouſand Men? Could he think that a Garriſon of near 4000 Men, would be as ſoon conquered, as the weak Sticklers againſt him in St. *Stephen*'s Chapel are ſilenced by his big Words and Plauſibility of his Reaſoning? Did he think, that the ſtrong and thick Walls of *Fort Royal*, were to be broken down by the Wind of the *Britiſh* Cannon, in the ſame Manner, as he ſnaps the deluſive Arguments ſpun out of the Cobwebs in *Weſtminſter* Hall? Or even, that the Noiſe of the *Britiſh* Mortars would deſtroy the Bulwarks of *Martinico*, in the ſame Shape as his Eloquence like a Torrent breaks down the Fences of Oppoſition, and burſts the Barriers of Party and Faction: He muſt have known that the Iſland was large and commodious; and its Importance might eaſily have occurred to any Man of Sagacity, both from the vaſt Quantities of Goods daily ſhipped off to

Old France, and from the different Manufactures upon it: What Arguments the great Man who guides the Rudder of the State will uſe to vindicate his own Conduct, may poſſibly be heard afterward; his Imagination is abundantly fertile, and his Tongue impetuous at Will; I ſhall only obſerve, that ſeldom does Wiſdom and Diſcretion attend an overflowing Fall of Speech, and too impetuous a Volubility of Tongue; for it is remarkable that where theſe prevail, a Solidity of Underſtanding, a Genius for Diſcernment, and a Reach of Thought, are generally wanting, or at leaſt ſcanty and defective; in which Caſe it is no Wonder than a Force very unequal to the Undertaking, was ſent out for conquering *Martinico*.

Could any Miniſter of State be ſuppoſed to have directed Commodore *Moore*, and General *Hopſon*, to attempt with ſix Regiments only, and a few Marines, the Siege of *Fort Royal*, in its preſent Condition? He could not have fallen upon a more effectual Method for putting a Stop to the Progreſs of the *Britiſh* Arms, and doing a real Injury to the Nation; ſince every Diſappointment

appointment is an Obſtacle to a Peace which the Trading Part of the Kingdom ſo much want; and which the Neceſſities of the Manufacturers and Labourers ſo loudly call for.

M. *Thurot*, the Governor of *Martinico*, had undoubted Intelligence of an Invaſion, which his own Sagacity prompted him to expect; he took every neceſſary Precaution to prevent its Effects, which he was enabled to do, as he had a Supply of Men, Ammunition, and Proviſions from *Guardaloupe*, St. *Domingo*, and *Euſtatia*, that conſtant Source of Aſſiſtance to the Trade and Intereſt of *France*; beſides, he received a Reinforcement of 2000 Men, under the Command of the Chevalier *de Polignac*, and with theſe a Company of the Train of Artillery.

The Fleet in which theſe arrived, conſiſted of thirteen Sail: They weighed Anchor on the 13th of *November*, from *Rochfort*, and carried with them Ammunition, Proviſion, and Military Stores; and what was more, a Letter of the *French* King's own Hand-writing, of which the follow- is a Tranſlation.

Monſieur Thurot,

SIR,

" HAVING repeated Information
" of the prudent Steps you have
" taken for the Security of our Iſland of
" *Martinico*, for defeating the Attempts
" of the *Engliſh*, whoſe unparallelled En-
" croachments upon the Settlements of
" our Subjects on the *Ohio*, and un-
" heard of Piracies on the open Seas, in
" Time of full Peace, have compelled us to
" do Juſtice to our injured People. Aſſure
" yourſelf of our gracious Protection, and
" let the Officers and Soldiers under your
" Command, know, that I have a due
" Senſe of their Fidelity, and ſhall never
" reckon any Title that can be conferred
" upon a King equal to that of being
" FATHER of his PEOPLE; in the mean
" Time, let every Officer under your Com-
" mand, be advanced a Step higher than
" he is, if deſerving, and let their Places
" be ſupplied by the private Men; and ſo
" commending you to the Divine Pro-
" tection, we bid you heartily farewel."

Done at Verſailles,
Nov. 11*th*, 1758.

This

This Letter being communicated to the Garriſon, who was muſtered on the Occaſion, Hogſheads of *Burgundy*, and *Champagne*, were diſtributed among them: They fired Vollies from their ſmall Arms: The Town was illuminated, Conduits run with Wine, which was yet carefully preſerved from ſcattering upon the Ground, and the Artillery fired; nor did any appear more gay upon this Occaſion, or more hearty in the Cauſe of *France*, than the *Engliſh* Mariners, in the Service of that Crown.

From that Day the Precautions were redoubled, Beacons were ſet up along the Coaſt, and thro' the Mountains; ſo that in half an Hour's Time, the Appearance of an Enemy would be known through the whole Iſland.

Nor muſt it be forgot, that the Letter wrote by the *French* King united the ſeveral Parties of Eccleſiaſtics, who were diſtracted thro' the Phrenzy of Religion; the Diſputes which hitherto raged with more than brutal Rancour, among the *Capuchin* and *Dominican* Friars, were drowned in a Zeal to promote one common Cauſe.

But

But the Force deſtined to reduce *Martinico*, was not leſs equal to the Buſineſs on which they were ſent, than the Conductors of the Expedition were miſtaken in the Steps toward diſtreſſing the Enemy, for one third Part of what might have been done, was not acted.

Inſtead of pouring in upon the Iſland directly, the Ships ſlackened Sail, when within ſeven Leagues of it, ſo that the Governour being apprized, Signals were ſet up; and the Forces flocked together from all Parts, amounting to about twenty Thouſand Men, two Thirds of whom were hardy Veterans, and habituated to War: That very Afternoon three Thouſand Blacks were ſent to undermine the Ground, near *Fort Negroes*, and a whole Mine conſiſting of 150 Barrels of Gunpowder, together with it's Chamber, was finiſhed by Eight in the Morning; three Companies of the Piquets draughted from the ſeveral Regiments, were ſent forward to amuſe the Invaders, and to decoy them upon the Ground, that had been ſapp'd for a Repoſitory to theſe Engines of Deſtruction.

About Six o'Clock in the Morning, of the 16th, the whole Fleet came to an Anchor off *Point de Negroes*, where was a Battery of ten Guns, eight of which were diſmounted, and two were burſt: On this, the Party defending it fled off to another Fort, which lies Weſt of the former, and which was defended by a ſtrong Redoubt, planted with ſix Cannon, and two Mortars: This Fort was ſoon demoliſhed, the Guns were broken and diſmounted, and the two Mortars fell into the Hands of the Invaders.

The Coaſt being clear about this Place, all the Troops were landed before Five in the Afternoon, without any further Oppoſition, and that Night lay upon their Arms, and next Morning, being the 17th, marched toward *Fort Royal*.

Happily for them, by the Time that the firſt Line got beyond the Ground that was mined, a *French* Carpenter, who had differed with the Conſtructor of the Mine about his Wages, being chagrined, he cut one of the Canals of Communication; and deſerting, was conducted to

General

General *Hopſon*, whom he advertiſed of the Danger he was in; ſo that the Men were ordered to face about, and move off that Ground, while proper Enquiry was made into the Information given, and the Barrels were ſent on Board: At this very Time the *French* endeavoured to ſet Fire to the Train, but the Communication being broken, there was only an Exploſion of one or two Barrels, and ſome of the Out-Parties began to fire at ſome Diſtance, and killed ſome of Colonel *Watſon*'s Regiment: At this Time the Author of this, found Means to eſcape, as not being able to think of the Snares his Countrymen were ready to be caught in; and being carried before the General and the other Officers, he was ſtrictly examined as to the Strength and Condition of *Fort Royal;* of which he gave the moſt ſatisfactory Account in his Power: The Army now halted, and the General ſent a Meſſage to the Commodore, who coming to Land, a Council of War was held, the Reſult of which was, to re-imbark the Troops, by the Light of the Moon, which at that Time roſe about Nine at Night, and ſhone very clearly.

The

The Reimbarkation was both ſafe and regular ; only toward the latter End, ſome of the Piquetts who had advanced too far were attacked by the ſcouting Parties of the Enemy, and loſt about 150 men between killed and wounded. The troops being ſafe on ſhipboard, the Commodore proceeded to St. *Pierre*, where he might have done a real Piece of Service to his Country, by deſtroying that Neſt of Pyrates, wherein were hidden many of the Commodities taken from on board the Merchant Ships of the City of *London*, of *Briſtol*, *Liverpool*, *Dublin*, *Glaſgow*, and *Newcaſtle* upon *Tyne* ; but both the Commodore and General, ſurpaſſing the Politeneſs even of the Marſhals of *France*, only appeared in a courtly Manner and quickly withdrew ; they apprehended *Danger* that inſeparable Companion of every Expedition, they figured to themſelves in what Manner the French Troops poured down from every Quarter of the Iſland to oppoſe them.

How far this Complaiſance may be accounted for I cannot take on me to determine, tho' at preſent it ſeems to have been ill-timed, and far from being conſiſtent

with the Duty of an Officer entruſted with an Expedition of ſuch Importance.

I ſhall ever make a Diſtinction between an innocent Crowd of Peaſants living in the inland Parts of the Provinces of *Normandy*, and a Body of Soldiers ſent on Purpoſe to diſtreſs our Trade, and to favour the Depredations of an encroaching Enemy: It is no Step of Severity, nor in the leaſt inconſiſtent with Moderation, to annoy the Soldiers of *France* wherever theſe can be found, and ſuch are the Settlers and Planters in the Iſland of *Martinico*. To ſpare the unfortunate is an Act of a noble Mind, but to ſpare an Enemy when defending the Source and Repoſitory of the Strength exerted againſt us, muſt be acknowledged to be an ill-tim'd Lenity, and not to be juſtified by the Laws of the War. " 'Tis true, the Ships might in the Attack, " be ſo much diſabled as not to be in a con- " dition to proceed immediately, on any " other material Service, and the Troops " might be reduced in their Number for " future Attacks," but any Diſaſter might ſoon have been remedied, or at leaſt a ſmall loſs, ſuppoſe of a Man of War, which I extremely

doubt, would have been little or nothing in Compariſon of deſtroying the immenſe Warehouſes of St. *Pierre.*

The Argument, leſt the Ships ſhould be diſabled, and the Number of the Forces reduced, vindicates neither General nor Commodore; for not to attempt any Thing, throws a greater Reflection, than a failure in the Undertaking; Can a Sea or Land Officer to be ſuppoſed ſo very ignorant, of the Sea Coaſt of *Martinico,* and of the Situation of St. *Pierre,* as to be undetermined, at the Time when it was neceſſary to enter upon Action; and when their own Honour, and Intereſt of their Country, called upon them to exert themſelves? And from them will the Blame be reflected upon the Miniſtry, for ſending out a Force ſo unequal to the Undertaking.

It has been reckoned a Policy in the greateſt Potentates, to exert their whole Force, even if intended to cruſh a ſmall or exhauſted Republic: Thus the Court of *France,* the *Emperor,* and the *Turks,* made immenſe Preparations for cruſhing the *Venetians,* about a Century ago, and

in 1672, * the Force made uſe of by *Louis* XIV, for reducing the States of *Holland*, was, thought ſufficient to have ſwallowed up their Republic, if four Times ſtronger and more extenſive than it was: The grand Monarch rightly judged, that other Powers might come unto their Aſſiſtance; and the *Britiſh* Miniſtry might eaſily apprehend, that to reduce *Martinico*, was the ſame as to conquer, not only that Iſland, but likewiſe that Part of St. *Domingo*, belonging to the *French*, *Guardaloupe*, St. *Lucia*, *Vincént*, and *Granda*: As if theſe formed but one continued Tract of Territory: Nay they might readily expect that the *Dutch* of St. *Euſtatia*, would lend them a helping Hand, as is really the Caſe, their being a daily Communication between that *Dutch* Settlement, and the ſeveral Ports of *Martinico*, every one of which, except that of *Fort Royal*, might have been deſtroyed by the Fire from the Bomb-ketches.

What Deſtruction might have been cauſed to the different Manufactories, and

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* See the Age of *Louis* XIV, by M. *de Voltaire*.

Plantations,

Plantations, had the Fleet acted ſeparately; or had they ſailed directly to the Iſland without ſlackening Sail on the 15th, for at that Time, the *Floriſſant* of 74 Guns, was riding at Anchor before the Town, having returned from convoying a Fleet of Merchant Ships for *Old France*, to the Latitude of 25° 30′, theſe ſhe left with the *Bellona* Frigate of 32 Guns, which was in a few Days taken by the *Veſtal*, after a furious and obſtinate Engagement.

And not only might this Man of War have been taken * but ſome ſmall Craft in ſeveral Ports might have been deſtroyed: How eaſily was it for the Forces to have landed in Parties, nigh the Bay of *Marigot du Diamant*, upon the South, while another entered the Bay of *Cul de ſac de la Tartane*, on the Back of the Iſland, and while a Part of the grand Fleet lay before *Fort Royal*; nay, *La Baſſe Pointe*, on the N. W. might have been deſtroyed, while *La Chapelle de St. Anne*, might have been

* The Stream runs directly out of the Harbour, and the Wind generally blows in the ſame Art, ſo that it was Morning before the *Floriſſant* was hauled into the Carinage.

ruined

ruined on the South Eaſt Quarter. Nigh theſe Places lie the Sugar Manufactories, and at the laſt mentioned Places, are the Walks for warping Cotton, ſeveral Tons of which lay there when the Fleet appeared: However, all this was deferred, and the Commodore left *Martinico*, after paying it a courtly Viſit; ſo taking leave of St. *Pierre*, he ſet Sail for *Guardaloupe*, an Iſland much larger than *Martinico*, which by proper Cultivation, might be rendered of as great Importance.

After a very fine Paſſage, the Fleet appeared off the Iſland, on *Monday* the 22d in the Morning; the Day was far from being ſpent idly on either Side, for while the *Engliſh* were preparing to attack *Baſſeterre* from the Sea, the *French* Commandant, was buſied in putting every Thing in the beſt Poſture, for giving the Invaders not only a warm Reception, but rendering the Place, which he foreſaw muſt fall, of as little Advantage as poſſible to them. All Hands were at Work, and while the Military were each at his Poſt, the Negroes and ſome Horſes, were carrying off the moſt valuable Effects from the

Ships

Ships and Warehouſes; old Men, Women and Boys, aſſiſted in packing and tranſporting of them.

On the 23d the Attack was begun by the *Lion*, and the other Ships ſoon followed; * the Enemy plied the great Guns of the Fort for * fifteen Minutes, before one Shot was diſcharged from the Fleet; but no ſooner was the ſame properly ſtationed, than a general Fire was given, and the ſame purſued with all imaginable Fury, from Ten in the Morning, till Night when the Batteries of the Town were ſilenced, and the Town was ſet on Fire; vaſt Quantities of Rum, and Sugar, with Stores of Oil and Tar, fed the Flames, ſo that the Blare was terrible and intenſe, until the Troops who landed, ſhot ſome Carabines, only loaded with Powder into them, which ſuffocating the Flames it was aſtoniſhing to ſee how

* The *St. George* of 90 Guns, Captain *Clark Gayton*; *Cambridge* of 80, Captain *Thomas Burnett*; *Norfolk* of 74, Captain *Robert Hughes*; *Panther* of 60, Captain *Molin Shaldham*; *Burford* of 70, Captain *James Gambier*; *Berwick* of 64, Captain *William Harman*; and the *Briſtol* of 50, Captain *Lauchlon Leſlie*.

* It was a Square entirely open to a Bombardment, from the Sea, and mounted 60 Guns, and 40 Mortars.

ſoon

ſoon theſe ſubſided, nor is it conceivable, what Number of Trunks and other Things were ſaved.

How fortunate had it been, if the Ships in the Harbour had been ſaved likewiſe? but this was impracticable, as theſe were drawn up too far; however, the Flames did not ſpread ſo wide, but that ſeveral Veſſels eſcaped; for the Conquerors ſeized upon thirty Privateers, and 100 Merchantmen, many of which had been taken from the *Engliſh*.

From the Moment of entering the Town, which was on the Morning of the 24th, the Soldiers and Sailors, ſome of whom had been confined there during the laſt War, begun to think themſelves ſecure: Many beeame intoxicated with Liquor, ſo that had the Enemy then appeared, they muſt have fallen at an eaſy Purchaſe, but the Governour could not be ſure of their having committed ſuch an Indiſcretion.

When the News was intimated in the Morning, that the *French* continued under Arms, Inquietude and Concern appeared

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in the Faces of the Soldiers; from a Proſpect of being obliged to enter upon a Series of hard Duty, and which would become ſeverer, as it was reſolved to ſeek out the Enemy; againſt whom the Troops marched in a Body, and when about two Miles from *Baſſeterre*, a Trumpet arrived with a Letter from the *French* Governour, M. *Nadau Dutreil*, deſiring a Ceſſation of Arms, and propoſing a Conference.

Brigadier General *George Haldane*, Governour of *Jamaica*, with Lieutenant Colonel *Deſbriſay*, repaired to the Place appointed for the Congreſs. From the *French* Camp went M. *Dutriel*, and *Duqueruy*, with the Chevalier *Butler*, a Lieutenant-Colonel in the *Iriſh* Brigades; they met at a little Hutt, upon a riſing Ground, and very courteouſly embraced each other: M. *Dutriel* told the Governour of *Jamaica*, " Your Excellency and I are not Enemies, " for your Enemies are at St. *James*'s, and " mine are at the Court of *Verſailles*." After which the moſt obliging Compliments paſſed between them; they ſat down at a little Table, decked with Wine and Sweetmeats, which had been conveyed

thither, and with all the ſeeming Good-nature, that could be expected from the moſt intimate Friends: The *French* Commanders declaring, that they looked upon all Military Men as Brothers, and that more than a brotherly Friendſhip ought to ſubſiſt between them.

This being over, they entered upon Buſineſs; General *Haldane* was the firſt to propoſe, that the Governour, with the *French* Troops under his Command, ſhould ſurrender to General *Hopſon*, in which Caſe he promiſed them the moſt generous Treatment, and every Thing that could be expected from Men of Temper and Humanity, and that the Planters and Settlers upon the Iſland, ſhould be ſafe in their Perſons and Effects, on taking the Oath of Fidelity to the King of *Great Britain*: To this the *French* anſwered, that though they had not the leaſt Doubt of being treated with the moſt refined Politeneſs, yet they could not, conſiſtent with their Duty to the King, ſurrender on theſe Terms, without acquainting M. *de Beauhornois*, the Governour General of theſe Iſlands.

On this the Conferences were broken off, neither Party accepting the others Propoſals; the Deputies, after mutual Compliments took Leave of each other, and retired: Next Day they met for the ſecond Time, but with no better Succeſs than before.

As nothing could be ſettled by Negotiation, and that the *French* Deputies only wanted to gain Time, it was reſolved to have recourſe to other Methods. Accordingly the ſtricteſt Diſcipline was enjoined through the Camp, where two Spies were detected in carrying on a Correſpondence with the Enemy: One of theſe *Janſſen*, a *Frenchman*, whom Colonel *Deſbriſay* took out of *Portſmouth* Gaol, and honoured with the Care of his own Houſhold, was hanged in Sight of the *French* Forces, there being found on him Letters giving a full Information of the Strength and Poſition of the *Britiſh* Camp, and laying down a Method for ſurprizing the ſame. Expreſſes were immediately ſent off to *Montſerrat*, *Antigua*, St. *Kitt*'s, and the other *Britiſh* Iſlands, with Diſpatches to the reſpective Governour's, deſiring ſupplies of Proviſions,

Ammunition, and Military Stores, all which was complied with; and a Number of Soldiers more inured to Heats, than thoſe under General *Hopſon*, were ſent off to aſſiſt in the Reduction of the Iſland; where was daily ſkirmiſhing between the Out-parties of the *French* and *Engliſh*; and the latter were ſometimes under the Walls of *Baſſeterre*: All this Time a Scurvy and Flux, raged among the Seamen, poſſibly from the too frequent Uſe of Salt Meat, while a dry Cough and ſhortneſs of Breath, emaciated the Soldiers; this poſſibly was occaſioned by their too cloſe Confinement while on Ship-board: Near 2000 died of theſe Diſtempers, among whom, General *Hopſon*, about Two o'Clock in the Morning of the 27th, and General *John Barrington*, ſucceeded as the oldeſt Officer in Command.

As I mention General *Hopſon*, I cannot but expreſs my Surprize how any Prime Miniſter could ſend out a Man whoſe Conſtitution was almoſt worn out; whereas Expeditions of that Kind wanted the moſt vigorous Officer to bring them to a happy Iſſue, or even to go thro' with them in ſuch a Manner as to leave no Reflection upon

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the Conſtituents who ſent him, not to ſay the Country which gave him Birth; ſince the major Part of Mankind is apt to judge upon Things preſent, without any Reſpect to Futurity: General *Hopſon*'s Age and Infirmities loudly called for Repoſe, and many Times has the Gentleman himſelf been heard to lament his Inability to ſerve his King and his Country.

No ſooner was the General dead, than the Face of Affairs was changed, and the Plan of Operations was entirely altered, the Reduction of *Guadalupe* was reſolved on, and neither Contrivance nor Execution were wanting for bringing it about. General *Haldane* was ſent out with a Party of 200 Piquets and 100 Highlanders, with four Pieces of Cannon, to harraſs the Enemy: He advanced with theſe as far as *Dieudon*, a ſquare Fort, about 25 Miles from *Baſſe-terre*: He divided his little Company in three Parts, ſetting the Highlanders in the Center, and an equal Number of the Piquets on both Wings, with two Pieces of Cannon on each: Theſe having enfiladed the Works, and made a ſufficient Breach, the Highlanders ſcaled the Walls with uncom-

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mon Alacrity Sword in Hand, and drove the Enemy before them to behind the Parade, where they grounded their Arms and ſubmitted to General *Haldane*, who received them with a Generoſity and Politeneſs which do him as much Honour as his Wounds at *Fontenoy*.

After this Service, his Excellency repaired to his Government at *Jamaica*, both to baffle any Attempts of the Enemy, againſt the Iſland, which were then apprehended, as a large Body of *French* Troops had landed at *Hiſpaniola*, and to curb the Petulancy and Inſolence of the different Overſeers in his new Juriſdiction, where the People of Property, from the moſt extenſive Poſſeſſor to the meaneſt Planter, exerciſe a ſupercilious Pride, and brutal Deſpotiſm over the Inhabitants, many of whom are Gentlemen of Birth and Education, and have been obliged to repair thither for a Piece of Bread; the Truth is, being ſoon intoxicated with the Smiles of Fortune which they ſcarcely dreamt of, they grow wanton through Opulence, and repine at the moſt ſalutary Laws for reſtraining their Licentiouſneſs: His Excellence landed at *Port Royal* on the 3d

of

of *April*, and was received with all poſſible Marks of Eſteem; the Artillery fired, the Soldiers lined the Road from the Shore to his Houſe, and the Populace raiſed the loudeſt Acclamations and Huzzas.

But while Governour *Haldane* was ſailing to *Jamaica*, and General *Barrington* was concerting Meaſures for the Reduction of *Guadaloupe* and *Grande Terre*, the curious Gentlemen among us were buſy in obſerving the Comet which for two Years engroſſed the Expectation almoſt of all the Nations in the World.

On the 1ſt of *April* it was ſeen at *Baſſeterre*, about Three o'Clock in the Morning, upon the S. E. Quarter; it appeared in the Conſtellation *Hydra*, and in the 20th Degree of *Libra*, about 179 Degrees to the Eaſtward of the *Sun*, and ſeemed to approach toward him at the Rate of One Degree daily; his Declination was 29 Degrees, and he advanced Northward toward the *Equator* at the Rate of 15 Minutes daily, and was at the higheſt about 20 Degrees above the *Horizon*: We viewed him every Night till the 1ſt of *May*; when, by the

Help

Help of a reflecting Teleſcope, bought of Mr. *Watkins*, at *Charing-Croſs*, his Diſtance was computed to be about 26,527,600 Miles from the *Earth*; his Bulk by Computation came out to be a little leſs than this our Earth; it was viſible to the naked Eye till the 12th, but after that Period can only be ſeen thro' a Teleſcope.

The ſame Comet was obſerved at *Boſton* in *New England*, as alſo at *Charles-Town* in *North Carolina*, and thro' the Provinces of *Georgia*, *Virginia*; at *Jamaica*, and the whole *Caribbee* Iſlands; it has been ſeen by the Virtuoſi at *Paris*, *Turin*, *London*, and *Vienna*, in which laſt the Emperour and Empreſs viewed it from the Royal Obſervatory: It has been obſerved in many Places along the *Equator*, and I am hopeful that ſome Aſtronomers at *Perigoa* and the Iſle of *St. Katharine* in *South* ~~*Carolina*~~, or at *Goree* and *Guadiana* in *Africa*, have traced it out.

It is obſervable, that this Comet has appeared at three different Times, each more remarkable than another, on ſome joyful Occaſion; for when M. *Kepler* obſerved it at *Prague* on the 26th of *September* 1607,

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there were the greateſt Illuminations and Bonfires on Account of the Birth of a Prince; when M. *de Caſſini* obſerved it in the latter End of *Auguſt* 1682, there was nothing but Balls, Illuminations, Mirth and Feſtivals, thro' *France*, on Account of the Birth of that Duke of *Burgundy* * who was Pupil to the immortal *Fenelon*; and now the ſame appeared in 1759, amidſt the greateſt Preparations for keeping the Birth Day of *George* Prince of *Wales*, in a Manner ſuitable to the Grandeur of a free People, among whom the like Occaſion had not offered for an hundred and thirty-eight Years; the Appearance of Nobility and Gentry on the 4th of *June* 1759, was more brilliant and ſplendid than ever appeared in any Court of *Europe*. But leaving the Comet, as the Comet has left us, we ſhall return to the Operations in which the Generals exerted all their Skill, the Soldiers all their Courage,

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* Poſtremo Anno 1682, exeunte Auguſto, inſignis apparùit Cometa eodem in Loco nempe ſub Urſa ubi Anno 1607, die 26 Sept. ſe Cometem Pragæ obſervaſſe commemorat Keplerùs cum in publica lætitia ignis et lumina accenderentur: Sic Cometa Anni 1682, cum Gallia incredibilem ſuam Letitiam accenſis ubique luminibus nato ſereniſſimo Burgundiæ Duce teſtaretur. Vid. Philoſop. Vet. & Nov. Vol. 2. Page 1003.

and by purſuing a new Plan, accompliſhed what the fewneſs of the Forces ſent out by the Miniſtry, and the ſlow Motions of General *Hopſon*, had rendered almoſt impoſſible.

As *Guadalupe* is divided into two Parts by a narrow Channel, that all the Diſtrict of *Grande Terre* was in Arms, and that ſeveral Towns, with the inland Country, of what is properly called *Guadalupe*, held out; it was reſolved to proceed offenſively, by Detachments, in order to divide the Forces of the Enemy.

Accordingly, on the 7th of *March*, the Fleet ſailed with the Troops from *Fort Royal*, which Colonel *Watſon*'s Regiment was left to garriſon: And after a tedious Paſſage, occaſioned by the Difficulty of turning to Windward, all the Tranſports reached *Fort Louis* * except twenty-five, which had been driven to Leeward by ſtrong Currents and contrary Winds: However, theſe arrived in a few Hours after; and

* This Fort lies on that Side of *Grande Terre* oppoſite *Guadalupe*, ſo that the Fleet was obliged to ſail on different Tacks to arrive at it.

Things

Things promiſed ſo well that a Deſcent on *Grande Terre* was reſolved on next Day, when Commodore *More* prepared with the Men of War and Frigates * to ſeek out the *French* Squadron, conſiſting of nine Ships of the Line and two Frigates † under the Command of M. *Bompart*, who had arrived in thoſe Seas to ſuccour the *French* Colonies.

Accordingly, the Commodore ſailed on the 13th for *Prince Rupert's* Bay, in *Dominique*, a neutral Iſland, leaving only the *Roebuck* of 40 Guns, Capt. *Lynn*, to favour the Operations of the Troops. In this Bay he continued till the Second of *May*, when being informed that the *French* Fleet was to the Windward of *Marigalante*, he put to Sea about One in the Morning of the Third, and endeavoured to get up with them, but in vain; for, inſtead of fetching a Compaſs by the Tract which the Winds and Currents pointed out,

* The *St. George*, *Cambridge*, *Burford*, *Norfolk*, *Berwick*, *Buckingham*, *Panther*, *Lancaſter*, *Lion*, *Wincheſter*, *Rippon*, and *Briſtol*.

† He was joined by two Frigates, the *Aurore* and *L'Egrette*, of 40 Guns each, and by the *Floriſant* of 74 Guns, at *Martinico*.

he beat for five Days againſt both; and gaining very little Way, returned again to the Bay of *Prince Rupert*.

All this Time, the Troops in *Grande Terre* were making the moſt rapid Progreſs; for, after ſecuring *Fort Louis* and the Entrenchments thrown up there, 600 Men were put on Board two of the largeſt Tranſports, out of which they were landed between the Towns of *St. Anne* and *St. Francois*, where ſome Batteries of Cannon had been erected: The Detachment was commanded by Brigadier *William Crump*, an Officer of long Experience, he having ſerved with great Honour as Captain in the Grenadier Company of the Third Regiment of Foot Guards, and having been in ſeveral Battles in *Flanders*, particularly at *Fontenoy*, where he was wounded in the Thigh: He was inured to the hot Climates from his Infancy, and fit to command in thoſe Parts.

On the 29th, the Batteries and Entrenchments of *Goſier*, which ſecured the Communication between the Garriſons of *St. Anne* and *St. Francois*, were forced Sword in Hand, and the Town deſtroyed by 300 Men

Men under General *Barrington*: The ſame Detachment preſſed forward to *Fort Louis*, where they were joined by the Troops of the Garriſon, and in Concert with theſe drove the Enemy from all their Entrenchments and Batteries on that Quarter.

While Things were going on proſperouſly, on the Side of the *Engliſh*, an Accident happened to Colonel *Deſbriſay*, who with Major *Trollope*, a Lieutenant, and two private Men, were killed by the blowing up of ſome Cartridges that had taken Fire from the Wadding of a Twenty-four Pounder, that was diſcharged from the upper Baſtion of *Fort Royal*, at a Body of the Enemy; theſe had encamped cloſe by the Town, and had erected a Bomb Battery, from whence they had thrown ſeveral Shells into the Fort: Major *Melvil*, now made Governour, and who commanded the Detachment of Colonel *James Lockhart*, *Roſs*'s Regiment, from the *Leeward Iſlands*, ordered Captain *Blomer*, with 300 Men to make a Sally from the Town, and deſtroy one Battery that was finiſhed, and another that was not brought to Perfection, all which was accordingly done.

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The Country being ſcoured about *Baſſe-terre*, on the *Guadalupe* Side, and the Parts about St. *Louis*, on the Side of *Grand Terre*, the Brigadiers *Clavering*, and *Crump*, were ſent to reduce the Places which ſtood out.

In the Morning of the 12th of *April*, the former landed with 1300 Men, and three Hundred of the *Antigua* Volunteers, at a Bay near *Arnoville*: And the Enemy retired to very ſtrong Entrenchments behind the River *Le Corn*: This Poſt was ſtrong by Nature, and rendered formidable by Art; it ſecured a Communication with *Bay Mahaut*, where Proviſions and Supplies of all Sorts were landed by the *Dutch*, from St. *Euſtatia*. The River was only acceſſible at two narrow Paſſes, on Account of a Moraſs covered with Mangroves, and thoſe Places they had occupied with a Redoubt, and well pallaſadoed Intrenchments, ſecured with Cannon, and defended by all the Militia in that Part of the Country: As the Troops advanced, their Front was contracted, and at laſt reduced to the Breadth of the Road, which was interſected with deep and wide Ditches: How-

ever,

ever, nothing could reſiſt the Intripidity of Men bent upon Conqueſt; the Troops advanced, the Artillery conſiſting of four Field Pieces, and two Howikers, kept a conſtant Fire on the Top of the Entrenchments, to cover the Attack made by *Duroure*'s Regiment, and the Highlanders, who advanced with the utmoſt Coolneſs and Reſolution, and firing by Platoons; the Enemy abandoned the firſt Entrenchment on the left, and fled to the Redoubt, whether they were quickly purſued, and driven thence with a terrible Slaughter.

As the Enemy on the Right of the Intrenchment kept their Ground, and annoyed the Troops both with their Muſquetry, and Cannon; *Duroure*'s Regiment, and the Highlanders, by this Time got in the Rear of the *French*, and haſtily made a Bridge over the River, in order to attack them in Flank; this took up half an Hour; however, they got up Time enough to take ſeventy Priſoners, among whom many of the moſt conſiderable Inhabitants of the Iſland: And all this with the Loſs only of one Officer, and thirteen Men killed, with two Officers, and fifty-

two

two private Men wounded: And in the Intrenchments were found ſix Pieces of Cannon.

So ſoon as the Ditches could be filled up, for tranſporting the Cannon, the Troops marched to *Petit Bourg*, and though the Enemy had lined an Entrenchment about half a Mile on the left of the Road, yet they abandoned it, and keeping always about two Hundred Yards in the Front, they decamped, and ſet Fire to the Sugar Canes, which obliged the Purſuers twice to leave the Road, that no Accident might happen to their Powder.

About Ten at Night the Troops arrived on the Banks of the River *Lezard*, behind which, and at the only Ford, the Enemy had thrown up very ſtrong Entrenchments, ſecured with four Pieces of Cannon planted upon an Hill behind them.

At this Place Brigadier *Clavering*, acted with a Coolneſs and Wiſdom ſufficient to enoble any Commander: He diverted their Attention by firing into their Lines, and in the mean Time ferried over in two Canoes,

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at a Place about a Mile and an half below the Entrenchment, a Number of Men ſufficient to attack them in Flank, while he himſelf did the ſame in Front; it was the Dawn of the Morning before the Enemy perceived them, and then foreſeeing their Danger they abandoned their Entrenchments: And leaving the Ford open, the brave *Clavering* paſſed without the Loſs of a Man, and without halting a Moment, purſued them to *Petit Bourg*, which Place they had fortified with Lines, and a Redoubt planted with Cannon: Here Captain *Uradale*, of the *Granada* Bomb Ketch, was throwing Shells into the Fort; and was anſwered briſkly by the Enemy, who, on Appearance of the *Britiſh* Forces, and obſerving their Intention to occupy the Heights around them, abandoned their ſtrong Holds, leaving their Port and Artillery to the Conquerour.

Next Day being the 14th, the ſagacious *Clavering* halted to get in Proviſions for the Troops; and on the 15th, Brigadier *Crump* was detached at Day-break with 700 Men to Bay *Mahaut*, and at the ſame Time Captain *Stile* with 100 to *Gùoyave*, about

 ſeven

ſeven Miles in their Front, to deſtroy a Battery. The Panick of the Enemy was ſuch, that they only diſcharged their Cannon at him, and abandoned a Part that might have been defended againſt an Army: He nailed up ſeven Pieces of Cannon, and returned that ſame Evening to *Petit Bourg*. Next Day, Brigadier *Crump* came back with his Detachment from the Bay *Mahaut*, where he found the Town and Batteries abandoned; theſe he burnt, with an immenſe Quantity of Proviſions that had been landed there by the *Dutch*, and reduced the whole Country as far as *Petit Bourg*. As the Rain for the two ſucceeding Days had rendered the Rivers impaſſable for the Troops, theſe employed themſelves during that Interval in ſtrengthning the Ports there. On the 18th, the *Antigua* Volunteers took Poſſeſſion of *Gùoyave*; and early next Morning, were joined by a Detachment commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel *Barlow*, who had Orders to repair the Road for the Paſſage of the Cannon.

On the 20th, the Conquerour, after leaving 250 Men to guard *Petit Pourg*, marched

marched with the remaining Part of the Detachments, and Cannon, to *Guoyave*, in order to proceed afterwards to St. *Marie*'s, where the Enemy were collecting their whole Force; had thrown up Entrenchments, and erected Barricadoes, to prevent being ſurprized: About Ten in the Morning, the two Armies came in View of each other: Here the *Engliſh* Troops halted, and Colonel *Barlow* was ſent off with a Detachment to get in the Rear of the Enemy, by Roads, which they thinking impaſſable, had not taken Care of, and thro' which, ſome Guides had offered to conduct the Party.

Barlow, having with great Spirit and Diligence, executed his Commiſſion, he appeared in the Rear of the Enemy, and formed over againſt them; the firſt Diſcharge from the Cannon alighted near the Entrenchmens, and alarmed the whole Body of the Enemy there; they ſoon became ſenſible of their Danger, and fled off with Precipitation. They were purſued as far as the Heights of St. *Marie*, where the Men were again formed for attacking their Lines and Batteries, while the Barricadoes

were levelling for the Artillery to paſs; the Troops attempted a ſecond Time to croſs the Woods and Precipices, that covered the Flanks of the Enemies Lines, but before the Cannon could be got up, the Movement was diſcovered, and the *French* begun to quit their Intrenchments to oppoſe it, which made the Intrepid *Barlow* reſolve upon an immediate Attack in Front, which was accordingly executed with a ſpirited Vivacity, notwithſtanding an inceſſant Fire, both of their Cannon, and ſmall Arms: Here they abandoned their Artillery, and went off in ſo much Confuſion, as never afterward to appear in a Body to make Reſiſtance.

That Night the Troops took up their Quarters at St. *Marie's*, and next Morning entered the *Capeſterre*; which is the richeſt and moſt beautiful Part in the *Weſt Indies*: In a few Hours eight Hundred and ſeventy Negroes, belonging to one Man only, ſurrendered.

The principal Inhabitants ſoon followed; for M. *de Clainvilliers*, and *Duqueruy*, came out as Deputies, and met with Brigadier *Clavering*, to know the Terms which

General

General *Barrington* would grant them: They were conducted to *Petit Bourg*, where his Excellency was laid up of a ſevere Fit of the Gout, in his Head, Feet, and Stomach: Notwithſtanding his Pain, he received the Deputies in the politeſt Manner, and after a Conference for five Hours, two Capitulations were ſigned, one betwixt the *Britiſh* and *French* Commanders, and the other between the *Britiſh* Generals and the Inhabitants.

By the firſt Capitulation, The Governour, and Officers of the Regular Troops, are permitted to march out of their Poſts, with the Honours of War, and are to be ſent to *Martinico*, with their Families. The Officers who have Eſtates in this Colony to appoint Attorneys to act for them until the Peace; and if the Iſland is not then ceded, the above-mentioned Officers ſhall have Leave to ſell their Eſtates, and carry off the Produce. The Priſoners, Soldiers and Sailors, ſhall be mutually exchanged. All the Negroes who are enliſted and continued till the laſt Day of the Attack, in the Companies of *Bologne*, *Petit*, *Dumoliere*, and *Ruby*, agreeable to the Liſt, given in of them,

them, ſhall have their Freedom at the Expence of the Colony, upon Condition that they are immediately ſent off the Iſland. All Subjects, formerly belonging to the King of *Great Britain*, who for Crimes were forced to fly their Country, and have carried Arms in the Iſland, ſhall be pardoned, but they muſt go off the Iſland.

By the ſecond Capitulation, The Inhabitants are permitted to march out of their Poſts with all the Honours of War, in Conſideration of the brave Defence which they made during an Attack of three Months, upon Condition that they lay down their Arms ſo ſoon as they have marched by our Troops, and that all the Forts, Poſts, Batteries, Cannon, Mortars, Firelocks, and Bayonets, with all Kind of Ammunition, and Implements of War, be deliver'd to a Commiſſary, to be named by us; and that we ſhall have a Power of fixing Garriſons in all ſuch Places as we ſhall think proper. The Inhabitants of the Iſlands of *Martinico*, *Marigalante*, and *Dominico*, who came to the Aſſiſtance of *Guadalupe*, are to have Leave to retire with their Arms and Baggage, excepting thoſe from *Marigalante*, who

who ſhall be ſent to *Martinico*. The Inhabitants are to be allowed the free and publick Exerciſe of their Religion; the Prieſts and Religious be preſerv'd in their Pariſhes, Convents, and all other Poſſeſſions. They are to obſerve a ſtrict Neutrality, and not to be forced to take up Arms againſt his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, or againſt any other Power, on Condition that they take an Oath within a Month, or ſooner if poſſible, to maintain all the Clauſes of the Capitulation, as well as to remain exactly and faithfully Neuter. They are to be allowed their Civil Government, their Laws, Cuſtoms, and Ordinances. The Inhabitants as well as the Religious Orders are to be maintained in the Property and Enjoyment of their Poſſeſſions, Goods moveable and immoveable, Noble and Ignoble, of what nature ſoever they may be; and ſhall be preſerved in their Privileges, Rights, Honours, and Exemptions; and the free Negroes and Mulattoes in their Liberty. The free Mulattoes and Negroes who have been taken, are to be conſidered as Priſoners of War, and not treated as Slaves. No other but the Inhabitants actually reſiding in this Iſland ſhall poſſeſs any Lands or Houſes,

by

by Purchaſe, Grant, or otherwiſe, before a Peace; but if at the Peace this Iſland ſhould be ceded to the King of *Great Britain*, then ſuch of the Inhabitants as do not chuſe to live under the *Engliſh* Government ſhall be permitted to ſell their Poſſeſſions, moveable and immoveable, to whom they will, and retire wherever they pleaſe; for which Purpoſe there ſhall be a reaſonable Time allowed; but ſuch of the Inhabitants as chuſe to retire, ſhall have Leave to ſell to none but Subjects of *Great Britain*. The abſent Inhabitants, and ſuch as are in the Service of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, are to be maintained in the Enjoyment and Property of their Eſtates, which ſhall be managed for them by Attorney's. The Inhabitants have Leave to give Freedom to ſuch Negroes as they have promiſed it to, for the Defence of the Iſlands; but on Condition that they are immediately ſent off the Iſland.

This Expedition crowned with a Succeſs beyond the moſt ſanguine Expectations, ſhews what Reſolution and Bravery, directed by Wiſdom and Conduct, are able to do! The General was wanting in no

Step

Step toward compleating what was ſo well begun; he diſcovered an unparallelled Humanity toward the Inhabitants, diſtributed Proviſions among them, and took Care to ſecure them in their Properties and Effects: He invited the General Officers to dine with him, and treated them with a Politeneſs and Affability, which do him as much Honour as the Conqueſt itſelf.

How happy for the General that the Capitulation was ſetted on that Day, for, ſcarce was it ſigned when a Courier arrived with an Account, that 600 Regulars, and 2000 Buccaneers, with 2000 Stand of ſpare Arms, were landed from *Martinico* to enable M. *Dutreil* to hold out; one Party had landed on the Windward Side of the *Grande Terre*, and remained one Night on Shore, when ſome Spies and Deſerters informed them of what was done.

Such good Fortune only encouraged, but did not puff up; the General, in his Letters to the Secretary of State, he extolled the Bravery and Reſolution of the Officers, and recommended them to Preferment, but arrogated nothing to himſelf, though the Life and Soul of the Whole: I ſhall conclude with one general Reflection.

The Iſland of *Guadalupe*, by far the beſt and largeſt of all the *Caribbees*, is ſeventy Miles long, and between fifty and ſixty broad; it produces annually above forty Thouſand Hogſheads of Sugar, beſides vaſt Quantities of Cotton, Coffee, Ginger, and all Sorts of tropical Fruits, many of which are extremely nouriſhing.

By this Conqueſt, a lucrative Trade will be opened to the whole *Britiſh* Monarchy, and an hundred Thouſand Subjects are acquired! Theſe, by a mild Treatment, will ſoon ſee the Advantage of being ſupplied with Flour, and other Proviſions from *Ireland*, and *North America*: Their Intereſt will govern their future Conduct; and their Intermarriages with the *Britiſh* Women, will reconcile them to their new Maſters. Add to this, that the Proſperity of the People of *Guadalupe*, will have a great Effect upon theſe of *Martinico*, who, in Hopes of the ſame Treatment, will rather ſubmit than make an obſtinate Reſiſtance; And could I flatter myſelf, that Commodore *Moore*, would defeat M. *Bompart*, the Conqueſt of *Martinico* would immediately follow.

F I N I S.

John Carter Brown.

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